

**COMMISSIONERS**  
KRISTIN K. MAYES - Chairman  
GARY PIERCE  
PAUL NEWMAN  
SANDRA D. KENNEDY  
BOB STUMP



**ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION**

KRISTIN K. MAYES  
Chairman

Direct Line: (602) 542-4143  
Fax: (602) 542-0765  
E-mail: [kmayes@azcc.gov](mailto:kmayes@azcc.gov)

April 24, 2009

Director Larry D. Voyles  
Arizona Game and Fish Department  
5000 W. Carefree Highway  
Phoenix, AZ 85086-5000

**Re: Response Regarding Wildlife Planning and Coordination Between the Arizona Corporation Commission and Game and Fish Department.**

Dear Director Voyles:

As the body responsible for public utility regulation and power plant approval in Arizona, the Corporation Commission is keenly aware of the varied public interests that are involved in our hearing process and incorporated into our decisions. In your April 22, 2009 letter you highlighted the jurisdiction and trust responsibilities of the Arizona Game and Fish Department ("Department") over Arizona's wildlife resources and the intersection of those responsibilities with the Commission's functions.

It is my view that improved coordination and planning between the Department and Commission is necessary in order to appropriately consider the issues you highlighted within our decision making process. As you know, the Commission has historically gone to great lengths to address issues raised in our hearing process and welcomes participation from all parties.

Notwithstanding our historical commitment, I believe that the Commission and Department, in conjunction with other stakeholders, should begin a more formal planning process to better coordinate future projects and development. Both the Western Renewable Energy Zone and Renewable Transmission Task Force planning groups have included Commission involvement and recognition of wildlife resources issues. Going forward, I anticipate that these issues will continue to be addressed at the Commission and elsewhere. I have recently spoken with the Federal Bureau of Land Management and believe they have similar concerns and interest in balancing development with other alternatives. I propose that we consider establishing future solar scenarios, which could allow an opportunity to incorporate long range planning and some of the measures you have identified. Under this plan, the Corporation Commission could consider developing high, medium and low solar scenarios. This might allow agencies, such as the Department, to incorporate appropriate measures and signal how and where the Department believes future development should be considered. I believe that by incorporating wildlife habitat corridor planning in advance, development could be more appropriately directed and balanced.

Director Larry D. Voyles  
April 24, 2009  
Page 2

I plan to bring this matter before my fellow Commissioners at an appropriate time for discussion and their suggestions. I look forward to future correspondence and our working together on these important matters.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kris Mayes", with a stylized, flowing script.

Kris Mayes  
Chairman

Cc: Commissioner Gary Pierce  
Commissioner Paul Newman  
Commissioner Sandra Kennedy  
Commissioner Bob Stump  
Ernest Johnson  
Janice Alward  
Michael Kearns  
Rebecca Wilder